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The Church School Teacher

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AGAZINE FOR CHURCH SCHOOL WORKERS

THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER

VOL. XXIV No. 10
DECEMBER, 1955

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The Church School Teacher

VOL. XXIV DECEMBER 1955 No. 10

From Your Director

By L. H. WESTBERG

ANOTHER December . . . another Christmas. Once again we bow low before the Child Jesus, adore Him, worship Him, and give Him our poor selves. Strange, is it not, that the gifts He wants from us are not our frankincense and myrrh, but our wretchedness and poverty, our blindness and weakness and sin. Strange and wonderful. For what else do we have to give Him but honest confession. It is He who gives the gifts—forgiveness and life.

A merry Christmas, honest confessors.

Audio-Visuals

Here is our quarterly listing of audio-visuals. For an ever increasing number of teachers, the use of audio-visual resources is proving a valuable assist in the Christian Growth Series.

The materials listed below represent the screening of hundreds of filmstrips, slides, and films for use with each lesson.

It would not be wise to use a projected visual resource every Sunday. Select from the list below on the basis of (1) availability; (2) skill in use; and (3) adaptability to the needs of your own group.

The titles marked by an asterisk are available from Audio-Visual Service, 2445 Park Ave., Minneapolis 4, Minn. All prices for films are rental prices. Filmstrips and slides are not offered for rental by our Audio-Visual Service.

PRIMARY III—SECOND QUARTER

Unit A—Jesus Grew Up
Lesson 1—The Child Jesus Grew

Filmstrip—**At Home in Nazareth*** (SVE) 22 frames, color. Sale $6

Filmstrip—**Palestine in Jesus' Day*** (E & R) 2 color filmstrips on life and customs. Part I—$5; Part II—$5. Preview and use selected sections related to lesson.

Filmstrip—**Thanksgiving with Jesus*** (SVE) 21 frames, color. Sale $4. Celebrating the Feast of Succoth and Booths.

Filmstrip—**When Jesus Was a Boy*** (SVE) 28 frames, color. Sale $5
Lesson 2—The Boy Jesus

Filmstrip—**When Jesus Was Twelve*** (Concordia) 31 frames, color. Sale $5

Filmstrip—**Feast of Lights with Jesus*** (SVE) 20 frames, color. Sale $4. Celebrating the Feast of Hannukah in Jesus' day

Filmstrip—**The Childhood of Jesus*** (Church-Craft) 21 frames, color. Sale $5

Filmstrip—**When Jesus Kept the Passover Feast*** (SVE) 22 frames, color. Sale $5
Lesson 3—The Man Jesus

Filmstrip—**Palestine in Jesus' Day*** (see above under Lesson 1—use selections)

Filmstrip—**Jesus Begins His Ministry*** (Church-Craft) 27 frames, color. Sale $5

Film—Boyhood and Baptism* B&W only (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W or color. Rental $9 or $15
Lesson 4—The Saviour Jesus

Slide—**The Hope of the World** (Copping) (SVE). Sale 60c

Filmstrip—Zacchaeus (Stillfilm) 39 frames, color. Sale $5

Filmstrip—**The Story of Zacchaeus*** (Cathedral) 45 frames, B&W. Sale $3

Slide Set—**The Manhood of Jesus** (Elsie Anna Wood Pictures) 10 slides, color. Sale $5

Filmstrip—**Jesus, Friend of Little Children*** (SVE) 28 frames, color. Sale $5

Unit B—Living Like Jesus in **Our** Neighborhood
Lesson 5—Getting Along with Our Neighbors

Filmstrip—**A Plea for Justice—Amos*** (SVE) 31 frames, color. Sale $5

Filmstrip—**The Good Samaritan*** (Church-Craft) 19 frames, color. Sale $3.50
Lesson 6—Sharing Jesus with Our Neighbors

Filmstrip—**Be a Missionary*** (ALC) 50 frames. B&W. Sale $3

Sound Filmstrip—**Bill Brought Them*** (NLC) 70 frames, color, with LP recording. Sale $6; Rental $2.50
Lesson 7—People of All Races

Filmstrip—**Sunday Around the World*** (JCME) 40 frames, color. Sale $5

Filmstrip—**The Good Samaritan*** (Church-Craft) 19 frames, color. Sale $3.50

Slides on "The Good Samaritan" by various painters
Lesson 8—Some Have More Than Others

Filmstrip—**Seashells and Coconuts*** (Church-Screen) 29 frames, color. Sale $5
Lesson 9—Being Courteous to Workers

Filmstrip—**Friends Who Help Us*** (Church-Screen) 29 frames, B&W. Sale $2.50
Lesson 10—Choosing the Best in Our Neighborhood
No aids suggested

Unit C—God and His Son Jesus
Lesson 11—God Sent Jesus to Earth
No aids suggested
Lesson 12—God Was with Jesus on Earth

Filmstrip—**A Busy Day in Capernaum*** (Stillfilm) 47 frames, color. Sale $5
Lesson 13—Jesus Told Others About God

Filmstrip—**Singing Praises to Jesus*** (SVE) 22 frames, color. Sale $5. How a little boy Joel accompanied Jesus on his triumphal journey to Jerusalem. See December "Parish School" for suggestions on how to use this filmstrip.

JUNIOR—SECOND QUARTER

How Jesus' Work Goes On
Unit A—Carrying on in Jerusalem
Lesson 1—Jesus Ascends and the Holy Spirit Comes

Filmstrip—**The Ascension of Jesus*** (Concordia) 22 frames, color. Sale $5

Slide Set—**The Disciples** (SVE) 12 Tissot pictures of the disciples. Sale $4.75
Lesson 2—Peter Carries On

Slide Set—**The Foundation of the Church** (SVE) 13 Nelson slides. Sale $5.25
Lesson 3—Jesus' Followers Are Loyal

Filmstrip—**Stephen Helps Christians Share*** (SVE) 22 frames, color. Sale $
Lesson 4—A Good Church Worker Stoned

Filmstrip—**Stephen, First Christian Martyr*** (Cathedral) 43 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record for this also available $2.50)

Film—**Stephen, First Christian Martyr*** (Cathedral) 24 minutes, B&W. Rental $7

Unit B—Outsiders Become Christians
Lesson 5—Another Church Worker's Experience

Filmstrip—**Dr. Albert Schweitzer** 33 frames, color. Sale $2.50
Lesson 6—A Gifted Man Becomes a Christian

Filmstrip—**The Conversion of Saul*** (Cathedral) 29 frames, color. Sale $5. A 33 1/3 rpm recording is also available for $2.50 which has children's script on one side, adult script on reverse. For suggestions on how to use this filmstrip see the December 1955 "Parish School."

Film—**The Conversion of Saul*** (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W. Rental $9
Lesson 7—Outsiders Come into the Church

Filmstrip—**Cornelius Hears the Good News*** (SVE) 22 frames, color. Sale $4

Unit C—Paul Carries on Jesus' Work
Lesson 8—The Church Spreads

Filmstrip—**Ambassador for Christ*** (Cathedral) 46 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record available for this $2.50)

Film—**Ambassador for Christ*** (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W. Rental $9
Lesson 9—Church Leaders Disagree

Filmstrip—**Second Missionary Journey*** (Cathedral) 37 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record available for this $2.50)

Film—**Second Missionary Journey*** (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W. Rental $9
Lesson 10—Christianity Goes into Europe

Filmstrip—**Visit to Corinth*** (Cathedral) 45 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record available for $2.50)

Film—**Visit to Corinth*** (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W. Rental $9
Lesson 11—Paul Says Farewell

Filmstrip—**Third Missionary Journey*** (Cathedral) 50 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record for this at $2.50)

Film—**Third Missionary Journey*** (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W. Rental $9
Lesson 12—Paul Goes to Rome

Filmstrip—**Trial at Jerusalem*** (Cathedral) 55 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record for this at $2.50)
Lesson 13—A Prisoner Preaches

Filmstrip—**Voyage to Rome** (Cathedral) 48 frames, color. Sale $5 (LP record for this at $2.50)

Film—**Voyage to Rome*** (Cathedral) 30 minutes, B&W. Rental $9

A man's ability is usually rated by what he finishes and not by what he starts.

The Monthly Teachers' Meeting

By THE EDITOR

WHAT are the elements of a good monthly Sunday school teachers' meeting? Bible study. . . . Background, resources, and teaching techniques. . . . Department study of lesson materials. For a well-balanced meeting you need all three. Let the executive committee handle the "business." If anything needs reporting or the decision of the entire staff take those matters up at the close of the evening's lesson planning session.

How much time is needed for a good monthly Sunday school teachers' meeting? Two hours. Start on time. Stop on time. If a department needs more time, encourage it to arrange for another meeting. Some departments like to meet every week. Power to them! What information must I have to run good Sunday school teachers' meetings? The following:

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

(A Plan for a Two Hour Session Once a Month)

THE MONTHLY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' MEETING

I. BIBLE STUDY—about 30 minutes

A. Devotional and doctrinal in nature. (There is need for clarity in the way of salvation.)

B. Aim for growth for the teacher (not how to teach) in fellowship with God, faith in Christ, and in the new life in Christ.

C. Help the teachers to become at home in the Bible through a discussion session each month. The use of the circle grouping is helpful.

D. Use the Biblical basis of the current quarter's or month's work in the curriculum used in the Sunday school.

II. BACKGROUND, RESOURCES, AND TECHNIQUES—about 30 minutes

The following materials are recommended: (Use only one procedure in a session.)

A. *Filmstrips and Recordings*—Use one filmstrip for a session. (Write for list.)

1. THE LEADERSHIP EDUCATION AUDIO-VISUAL KIT (Ten filmstrips with recordings.)

2. TEACHING THE BIBLE SERIES (Four filmstrips with recordings.)

3. THE FAMILY LIFE AUDIO-VISUALS (Four filmstrips with recordings.)

These filmstrips may be purchased in the following ways:

a. Sets may be purchased from the Board of Parish Education, 2445 Park Ave., Minneapolis 4, Minnesota.

b. Some Conference Commissions on Parish Education have purchased sets. Individual filmstrips are available for rental from them.

c. Some districts have purchased sets and individual filmstrips are available for rental through a clearing office in the district.

d. Individual filmstrips may be rented from the Augustana Audio-Visual Service, 2445 Park Ave., Minneapolis 4, Minnesota.

B. *Teacher Training and Leadership Course* (write for descriptive list).

Select subjects which meet a need of the local teachers. A leader may use one of these texts as a guide in preparing to present a subject.

Suggested subjects and helpful texts:

1. Understanding of children of various age levels.
   Text: "Understanding Our Pupils" by Milton Haker.
   Filmstrips from LEAV Kit: "No Two Alike," or "As the Twig Is Bent," or "How Persons Learn."

2. History and technique of using the Bible.
   Text: "The Bible and Its Use" by Nolde and Kaufmann.

3. An over-all review of the Old Testament history.
   Text: "The Story of the Old Testament" by William Cooper.

4. An over-all review of the story of the New Testament.
   Text: "The Story of the New Testament" by John Hiltner.

C. *Special Background Needed for Effective Teaching of the Sunday School Curriculum.*

1. Up-to-date information about our Augustana Church as a whole.
   a. Missions—Social, American and Foreign
   b. Educational Work—Parish Education and Higher Education
2. Church history.
3. The history and work of the local church.
4. Other subjects as the need is seen.

III. DEPARTMENTAL STUDY AND PLANNING—one hour

The teachers of each department should meet separately. Each teacher will need the Teacher's Guide, the Pupil's Study Book or leaflets, and the current issue of *The Church School Teacher* in which the helps for the teachers of each department are published quarterly.

THE PROCEDURE MAY BE AS FOLLOWS:

A. Evaluate the past month's work in the department and make plans for continuation and improvement of the work.

B. Plan for the next unit of lessons or the next month's work.
   1. Discuss the next unit as a whole
      a. Biblical basis and aims
      b. Activities and materials needed
      c. Plans for worship
   2. Plans for each lesson in the unit started
      a. Pre-session activities
      b. Bible lesson
         (1) Introduction to the class
         (2) Studying it with the class
         (3) Discussing it with the class and planning application to life
         (4) Summarizing it with the class in memory work and in a plan for worship
      c. The worship—Scripture, hymns, and prayers selected and prepared by the pupils in correlation with the lesson studied
   3. Preparation of materials needed during the unit or month

Notes:

A department may need and wish to meet during the month, even weekly, to make full plans and prepare materials.

At the department meeting before the beginning of each quarter, the departments should spend time getting acquainted with the material for the whole quarter—Biblical basis and aims, activities and materials, and worship plans.

The teachers of each department will find the following series of pamphlets helpful. They can be purchased from the Augustana Book Concern.

Teaching Nursery Children
Teaching Beginner (Kindergarten) Children
Teaching Primary Children
Teaching Juniors
Teaching Intermediates (Jr. High)
Teaching Seniors (Sr. High)
Teaching Young People
Teaching Adults

What are some suggestions for the December, January, and February meetings? Try these:

SECOND QUARTER—1955-56

December—Study and Plans for January.

Bible Study—30 min. Begin quarter's study of the Acts of the Apostles—*In Jerusalem*—Acts, Ch. 1-7.
For Biblical Basis—Junior III, 2nd Qr., Unit A.
—Intermediate III, 3rd Qr., Lessons 2-3.

Techniques—30 min. Introduce the use of the blackboard, flannelgraph, books, maps, films, and filmstrips in the Bible study and combine the two periods.

Department Study and Planning—at least 60 min.
Refer to ON-THE-JOB TRAINING.
Department "Helps" articles in THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER, December 1955.

January—Study and Plans for February.

Bible Study—30 min. Continue study of Acts—*Outsiders Become Christians*—Acts 8-11:18.
For Biblical Basis—Junior III, 2nd Qr., Unit B.
—Intermediate III, 3rd Qr., Lesson 4.
—Primary III, 3rd Qr., Unit B.
—Beginner I, 2nd Qr., Unit C.

Techniques—30 min. Continue the use of aids in teaching during the Bible study—blackboard, flannelgraph, books, maps, films, filmstrips, etc.

Department Study and Planning—at least 60 min.
Refer to ON-THE-JOB TRAINING.
Department "Helps" articles in THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER, December 1955.

February— Study and Plans for March.

Bible Study—30 min. Continue study of Acts—*Paul Carries on Jesus' Work*—Acts 11:19-28, Galatians 2:1-14; Philippians, Thessalonians, Corinthians, Ephesians, and 2 Timothy.
For Biblical Basis—Junior III, 2nd Qr., Unit C.
—Primary III, 3rd Qr., Unit B.
—Intermediate III, 3rd Qr., Lessons 5-13.

Techniques—30 min. Continue use of aids to teaching during the Bible study—blackboard, flannelgraph, books, maps, films, filmstrips, etc.

Department Study and Planning—at least 60 min.
Refer to ON-THE-JOB TRAINING.
Department "Helps" articles in THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER, December 1955.

Outlines similar to the above will appear in THE CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER: Third Quarter, March 1956 issue; Fourth Quarter, June 1956 issue.

Our Two Stars

By ROBERT DOLF

When night of sin invades our day,
And darkness cloaks the world we roam,
Two stars still shine to guide our way:
The Church of God, and Christian home.

To these bright stars we always turn
For their encouragement and hope.
While these celestial lamps shall burn
There is no need for us to grope.

The Church of Jesus, and the home—
True stars that shine in blackest night!
Where'er they shine 'neath heaven's dome,
Thank God for their pure saving light!

For the S.S. Executive Committee

Calendar of Events

By THE EDITOR

THERE is an old saying: "Plan your work; work your plan." It is good counsel for any field, including the Church School. That is why the executive committee of the Sunday School along with the congregation's education committee should have a *calendar of events*. It should be worked up long before the beginning of each school year.

Every year our Triple T staff discusses the calendar of events idea with the superintendents, deacons, pastors, and educational directors attending our Triple T Schools. And each year a sample calendar is worked up. The last sample covers the months September 1955 through September 1956. Here it is.

Early next spring, work up a calendar of events for the next school year. Then follow it. I think you will be pleased with the improved operation of your school.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS SUNDAY SCHOOL—1955-56

September, 1955—PARISH EDUCATION MONTH

First Week —Sept. 4-10
Monday, Sept. 5—Labor Day
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
_____Meeting of General Secretary and Department Secretaries

Second Week—Sept. 11-17
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff

Third Week —Sept. 18-24
_____Family Night—Theme: _____

Fourth Week—Sept. 25-Oct. 1
Sunday, Sept. 25—Promotion Day, Dedication of Parents and Teachers at Morning Worship
Saturday, Oct. 1—Staff Rally Dinner

FIRST QUARTER—*October, November and December, 1955*

October, 1955

First Week —Oct. 2-8
Sunday, Oct. 2—Rally Day
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—Oct. 9-15
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —Oct. 16-22
Fourth Week—Oct. 23-29

November, 1955

First Week —Oct. 30-Nov. 5
Sunday, Oct. 30—Reformation Sunday
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—Nov. 6-12
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —Nov. 13-19
Sunday, Nov. 13—Stewardship Sunday
Fourth Week—Nov. 20-26
Thursday, Nov. 24—Thanksgiving Day

December, 1955

First Week —Nov. 27-Dec. 3
Sunday, Nov. 27—Advent Sunday
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—Dec. 4-10
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —Dec. 11-17
_____Family Night—Theme: _____
Fourth Week—Dec. 18-24
Fifth Week —Dec. 25-31
Sunday, Dec. 25—Christmas Day

SECOND QUARTER—*January, February and March, 1956*

January, 1956

First Week —Jan. 1-7
Sunday, Jan. 1—New Year's Day
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—Jan. 8-14
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —Jan. 15-21
Fourth Week—Jan. 22-28

February, 1956

First Week —Jan. 29-Feb. 4
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—Feb. 5-11
Sunday, Feb. 5—Youth Sunday
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week—Feb. 12-18
Sunday, Feb. 12—Boys' Sunday
Feb. 15—Ash Wednesday
Fourth Week—Feb. 19-25
Sunday, Feb. 19—First Sunday in Lent

March, 1956

First Week —Feb. 26-March 3
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—March 4-10
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week—March 11-17
_____Family Night—Theme: _____
Fourth Week—March 18-24
Fifth Week —March 25-31—Holy Week
Sunday, March 25—Palm Sunday
March 30—Good Friday

THIRD QUARTER—*April, May and June, 1956*

April, 1956

First Week —April 1-7
Sunday, April 1—Easter
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—April 8-14
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week—April 15-21
Fourth Week—April 22-28

May, 1956

First Week —April 29-May 5
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—May 6-12—National Family Week
_____Family Night
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week—May 13-19
Sunday, May 13—Pentecost, also Mother's Day.

Fourth Week—May 20-26
Fifth Week —May 27-June 2
Wednesday, May 30—Memorial Day

June, 1956

First Week —June 3-9—Vacation Church School
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—June 10-16—Vacation Church School
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —June 17-23
Sunday, June 17—Father's Day
Fourth Week—June 24-30

FOURTH QUARTER—*July, August and September, 1956*

July, 1956

First Week —July 1-7
Wednesday, July 4—Independence Day
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—July 8-14
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —July 15-21
Fourth Week—July 22-28

August, 1956

First Week —July 29-Aug. 4
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
Second Week—Aug. 5-11
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —Aug. 12-18
Fourth Week—Aug. 19-25
Fifth Week —Aug. 26-Sept. 1

September, 1956—PARISH EDUCATION MONTH

First Week —Sept. 2-8
Monday, Sept. 3—Labor Day
_____Meeting of Executive Committee
_____Meeting of General Secretary and Department Secretaries
Second Week—Sept. 9-15
_____Meeting of Sunday School Staff
Third Week —Sept. 16-22
_____Family Night—Theme: _____
Fourth Week—Sept. 23-29
Sunday, Sept. 23—Promotion Day, Dedication of Parents and Teachers at Morning Worship
Saturday, Sept. 29—Staff Rally Dinner

Helps for Teachers of Kindergarten

Christian Growth Series, Kindergarten I, Second Quarter

By RUTH SWANSON

A GLANCE at the table of contents of this quarter's Teacher's Guide leads us to the thought that it has been planned to foster growth in the use of the Bible, in Christian living and in church membership.

As we look closer into the outline of lessons we note that this year we need make no adjustment in our schedule in order to teach the Palm Sunday-Easter lessons at the proper time.

The three units of this quarter are unrelated so we might think of our work as being divided into three main efforts. Unit A further acquaints the kindergartners with the Bible as God's Book. The stories of Unit B illustrate Jesus' friendship with the people with whom He worked and helps us see Him as a Friend today. Unit C gives us an opportunity to discuss the church and its work with our children. We will need to concentrate on the unit aims and keep them in mind throughout.

The Teacher's Guide has very complete lesson plans. In fact, there is so much material that we cannot cover it all in the short time we have with our classes. In planning sessions, our guides should become workbooks using the margins for notes indicating what parts of the suggested plan we will use. Then, following our teaching we should take time to evaluate it, checking those parts which were especially valuable and eliminating those which were of little value. This will help us to plan more efficiently the next time we teach this quarter. This will take time and effort on our part, but it will pay big dividends of enjoyment in teaching.

Unit A

For most kindergartners the concept of the Bible as God's Book is not a new one, but this unit of lessons is intended to help them learn something about the meaning and purpose of the Bible *for them today.*

We must help them appreciate that the Bible is as important in their home as it is in Sunday school

and church. Parent co-operation is necessary. Children's books about the Bible are available from Augustana Book Concern. "Tell Me About the Bible" by Mary Alice Jones would help *parents* acquaint their children with the Bible. "My Bible Book" by Janie Walker and "In the Morning" by Louise Drew contain Bible passages within the kindergartners' understanding. Either of them could be the basis of discussions which would make these Bible truths real to the boys and girls.

The poem by Marge Burke found on page 10 of our guide has been set to music and included in our *Songs for Children.* A few minutes of presession time each Sunday could well be spent learning this song which is applicable to the entire unit.

Some of the activity suggestions given for this unit would be adaptable for use during pre-session, some can be related to the Bible story and others would become unit projects. Each one of us will need to remember our particular class as we think through all the suggestions found in our teachers' guide.

Unit B

Unit B, with its underlying theme of friendship, is of real value in the guidance of Christian living. Through the lessons of this unit our youngsters will see Jesus as a Friend to the people with whom He lived and worked here on earth. They should come to think of Jesus as their Friend today—as everybody's Friend. We should also impress upon them that as friends of Jesus we should do as Jesus taught: love and help *all* of His children everywhere.

We need to take special note of the suggestion, in Lesson 5, concerning the song, "Jesus Loves Me". We do not want it to lose its meaning by becoming a jingle. Neither do we want it to drag. It should be sung joyously. "Jesus, Friend of Little Children" carries the theme of the unit and would be an excellent closing prayer song to be used throughout the unit.

For Variety's Sake

Although there are many suggestions for activities, we need to remember that it is not necessary for the children to make something to take home each week. Unless the handwork is purposeful, it has little or no educational value. Occasionally, we might be able to substitute such activities as retelling stories, using pictures or objects, and dramatizations. Such variety will help keep our classes interested in the lesson and they will love it! However, we must always remember the lesson aims, that all of our teaching will be aim-centered.

Even though the worship suggestions are not given at the close of each lesson plan, they can be readily adapted for use as a closing class devotion, if it seems impossible to have it as a department. It might be a bit difficult for those of us in small schools to have department worships.

Unit C

By relating the Bible stories of Unit C to the present day church we can give our kindergartners an insight into the physical features of the church and its work. The lessons of this unit will explain to them, very simply, something about the building itself, the work of the pastor, the worship service and some of the duties and privileges of the congregation.

The songs, "Very Softly I Will Walk", "In Church It Is So Quiet", and "This Is God's House" all relate to this unit and any one of them would be a good introduction to each Sunday's activity. All are found in *Songs for Children.* Psalm 122:1, one of the memory verses, would make an excellent "call to worship" each Sunday. Ever try singing it to the tune of "O Little Town of Bethlehem"?

As was true in the first two units, ideas given for pre-session as well as the class session, are many and excellent. What we need to do is evaluate them in the light of our own situation to make the best possible use of them.

In order to more fully accomplish the aim for this unit, the children should attend divine worship. Notice suggestion 2, page 48 of our guide. If such a visit to the sanctuary, preferably with the pastor, is possible, it would be a good introduction to and motivation for worship service attendance. Perhaps we should invite the parents to this session—many of them would appreciate this learning experience with their children. We could at that time enlist their help and encourage them to attend worship *with* their children. The short note to parents in the leaflet for Lesson 10 needs a great deal of emphasis.

General Suggestions

As we have studied the units of this quarter more closely we notice two outstanding features:

1. Missionary emphasis and activities are found in the majority of the lessons. Check the mimeographed outline, *God's Children Everywhere,* for specific plans for worship services and special stories to use. Those plans are available from the Women's Missionary Society Headquarters, 3939 Pine Grove Ave., Chicago 13, Illinois. We are also reminded of the adaptability of the "Around the World" picture sets, especially "Children at Worship" and "Chil-

dren and Their Homes". Both sets with their accompanying stories are available from Friendship Press, New York.

Speaking of pictures, we should not neglect to use the Christian Growth Series picture sets, available from Augustana Book Concern. We cannot emphasize too strongly, however, the use of the accompanying guide. It will help us see the reason for using each particular picture in the spot designated for it. Incidentally, we must remember to remove and file our pictures when they are no longer a part of our teaching procedures. No bulletin board can be an effective teaching aid if it is overloaded with pictures unrelated to the lesson at hand.

2. The second point of strong emphasis is home-church relationship. We should take advantage of the many fine opportunities for establishing good pupil-teacher-parent rapport. The messages for parents in each week's leaflet are valuable suggestions on how parents and church school teachers can work together. If, in discussing the leaflet with our children, we will call attention to that section, we can be assured the parents will be reminded of the letter to them. Suggestions 1, 2 and 3 on page 36 of our guide merit much thought on our part also. Co-operative parents and prepared teachers together can do much toward helping kindergarten children in their Christian growth.

NEW BOOK

Teaching Primary Children—Loice E. Gouker. ULPH. 32 pp. 50c.

This 32 page pamphlet gives some very practical helps for teachers of 6, 7 and 8 year olds.

Each short chapter is packed with very readable material concerning the child, the teacher, teaching materials and teaching methods.

It is short enough to be read in "one sitting" yet it is so planned that it can readily be used by a competent leader as the basis of discussion during a resource period of several teacher's meetings. The page of additional helps would be valuable in expanding it for such a project. Available from Augustana Book Concern.

Helps for Teachers of Primary

Christian Growth Series, Primary III, Second Quarter

By RUTH SWANSON

A QUICK preview of our Teachers' Guide for the second quarter is all that is necessary to bring to our attention several sentences which might be considered as guideposts to us as primary teachers.

"One of the aims of our teaching should be to help the children experience, with satisfaction and joy, fellowship with God."

"A good slogan is, 'Sunday school begins as soon as the first child arrives.' "

"Arouse interest in the lesson planned by asking questions, keeping in mind the aims."

"Let all sessions be busy happy times for all of the pupils."

"All activities should contribute to the aims of the day and at the same time provide experiences in living and learning."

"One child's definition of worship is 'thinking about God.' "

"The Sunday school class should be the laboratory where each pupil has an opportunity to learn that loving and sharing are the most satisfying experiences. This is one of the constant responsibilities of the church school teacher."

Is not that, in brief, a picture of a class session? And, we have good suggestions in our Teachers' Guide to help us carry out such a class session. But again, as our author has advised us, we must "adapt all suggestions . . . to the local situation."

We all know that means preparation on our part. Although much of it will derive much benefit from a department planning session. We can discuss various things which involve the entire department and also motivate us into our specific preparation.

One of the first things we notice is that this year we need make no adjustment in the order of lessons to present the Palm Sunday-Easter stories at the proper time. Lesson 13 will be taught on Palm Sunday, according to schedule.

Unit A

The first unit of lessons this quarter follows very naturally those of the last unit of last quarter. As we note the aims of these lessons we will see that they are planned to help the children realize that Jesus grew as a real boy, that

He was obedient and helpful in His home and that He is also the Savior.

The Bible tells us very little about Jesus' boyhood, but we can learn much concerning the home life, the education, and the worship experiences of Jewish people. We will need to study carefully the Biblical basis given for each lesson, using a good commentary, in addition to the background material found in our Teacher's Guide.

The following books, available from Augustana Book Concern, contain pictures and information which will also help us in preparing to teach Unit A: "What the Moon Brought"—Sadie Rose Wilerstien; "The Life of Jesus"—Donald Irwin; "His Name Was Jesus"—Mary Alice Jones; "One God, the Ways We Worship Him"—Fitch.

Primary children themselves would be able to gain much from such books as: "A Picture Book of Palestine"—Smither; "Living in Jesus' Day"—Standard Publishing Company; "Let's Go to Nazareth"—Elizabeth Reed.

Aim for Growth

During this unit's study we are helping our children to grow in the understanding that Jesus, the infant, the growing boy, the man and the Savior is one person. In addition, our aim should be that each child should grow "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." We must not neglect making application of these truths to the lives of our youngsters. "The knowledge and experience gained should become woven into the fabric of their lives."

Unit B

Unit B, Living Like Jesus in Our Neighborhood, is a practical application of the truths of Unit A. It gives us the opportunity of specifically teaching the second great commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Both Old and New Testament references are given as Biblical bases, but the underlying principle of the entire unit is incorporated in the Golden Rule.

The Teachers' Guide has various suggestions for related activities which we need to evaluate and adapt for our own classes. The trips indicated to be used as part of the development of the unit, would be interesting during-the-week after-school projects for class, teacher *and* some parents. Plan, well in advance, with persons in charge, a visit to a neighborhood house, a housing project, a farm or factory. Careful planning, with the lesson aims in mind, is necessary in order that such a venture will be profitable.

Children's books which pertain to this unit are: "With My Whole Heart"—Frances Heron; "If Jesus Came to My House"—Joan Gale

Thomas; and "Just Like Jesus"—Hattie B. Allen.

At the close of this unit we may well evaluate our teaching by thinking about the questions found under the caption, "After the Unit Is Completed," on page 49 of the Teachers' Guide. If our children have learned to do a little more about living helpfully and happily, we will have been successful.

Unit C

Unit C of this quarter and Unit A of the next is a brief story of Jesus—His birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension.

Lesson 11—a review of the Christmas story—is an approach to teaching the Apostles Creed meaningfully. Subsequent lessons will continue to build meaning into this confession of our Church. Making the suggested poster of the Apostles Creed is a good activity which may be carried over into the next quarter to complete the unit of thought.

The song, "We Are Little Christian Children," page 63 in our Teachers' Guide, is planned for use with this unit. We will need to discuss each verse in its appropriate lesson, so the children will sing it with understanding.

Two Mary Alice Jones books—"Tell Me About God" and "Tell Me About Jesus"—would be excellent recommendations for parents' use in the home. Parents would welcome a note indicating the appropriate pages which might be used as a "follow-through" of the class lesson.

Some Reminders

There is a reason for the use of a particular picture at a particular time. The guide for our Christian Growth Series picture sets helps us make the proper choice. Let us not forget to refer to it. Incidentally those picture sets may still be purchased from Augustana Book Concern.

And, speaking of pictures, we need to examine the use we make of our bulletin boards. Keep them up-to-date with current, meaningful material. It is only then that they will be effective teaching aids.

Also, this quarter has many instances where missionary activity can be naturally emphasized. Check the plans outlined in *God's Children Everywhere* for specific suggestions. Those plans with the accompanying stories and pictures are available from Women's Missionary Society Headquarters, 3939 Pine Grove Avenue, Chicago 13.

Teachers, as we study and prepare ourselves to teach this second quarter, may we gain "something of the wonder, awe and joy of the first Christians who had fellowship with Jesus." Then we will be proper channels through which our youngsters may learn to know God and His Son Jesus and grow to be more like Him.

Helps for Teachers of Juniors

Christian Growth Series, Junior III, Second Quarter

By HILVIE MAE OLSON

SELDOM do we meet a junior who is not acquainted with the work Jesus did. Younger juniors know "by heart" the many stories of Jesus which they have heard in their homes and in church school. Besides that, all former pupils except the fourth graders studied the quarter, "Activities of Jesus," just one year ago. Now all juniors will find out why and how this work of Jesus continues to go on. This new quarter is titled "How Jesus' Work Goes On."

During the period immediately after Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples must have been bewildered and confused. They did not know how the great work of Jesus was to continue. It may have only added to their bewilderment when, just before Jesus' ascension, He promised: "you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." No doubt this statement about receiving power did not begin to make sense to the disciples until Pentecost. Then, when the Holy Spirit came to them, they began to understand, *and to act!*

The Acts and the Epistles of the apostles tell the history of these critical first decades after the ascension. During January, February, and March, the juniors in church school will study about the heroes of this period—the period of the early Christian church. They will also find out that "Jesus' Work Goes On" today—*through the activities of us, His followers!*

Teachers of juniors will need to become thoroughly familiar with the book of Acts and with the writings of the apostles. They must know this well enough to enthusiastically help the juniors relive these Bible heroes' adventures. Al-

so, before the teacher can develop her aims for this study, she needs to appreciate the real significance of this part of the Bible. Here are some splendid background study helps:

Alleman, *The New Testament, A Study.*

Hiltner, *The Story of the New Testament.*

Avery and Lesher, *You Shall Be My Witnesses.*

These additional books, as well as other Bible story books, will be of value and interest to both the teacher and the pupils:

Bowie, *The Bible Story for Boys and Girls—New Testament.*

Browne, *The Graphic Bible.*

Egermeier, *Bible Story Book*

Lillie, *I Will Build My Church.*

Nordgren, *The Heart of the Bible.*

Into All the World, the book of Acts illustrated, sells for 8¢ from the American Bible Society, 450 Park Ave., New York 22, New York, or other American Bible Society outlets. It includes photographs of many places mentioned in the book of Acts.

Our aim for this quarter is to lead the juniors to discover how the church, by the working of the Holy Spirit, carries forward the life and work of Jesus through the activities of His followers. The material in the quarter is divided into units whereby we first find out how Jesus' work was carried on by early Christians in and about Jerusalem (Unit A), in the surrounding area among the Gentiles (Unit B), and throughout the Roman Empire (Unit C). Through our missionary study we see how Jesus' work is carried on today in our home communities, in our country, and throughout the world.

Unit A. Carrying On in Jerusalem.

Unit A tells how the Christian church was established by the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, how Peter and others who received power of the Holy Spirit carried on the preaching and teaching and healing among the Jews, and how opposition to this work grew until the apostles' lives were endangered. This unit is based on the first seven chapters of Acts.

Our aim for Unit A is to lead the juniors to discover how the Holy Spirit established the Christian church by giving Jesus' followers power and guidance to carry on His work in Jerusalem, and to help juniors realize that the Holy Spirit gives us power to carry on His work here and now.

The narration in the study book is exceptionally interesting. It would be even more so for your juniors if they could actually experience many of the same or similar things. Maybe they can organize a club and hold evening

meetings for games, making things, dramatizing, and sharing hobbies like the Loyal Workers' Class of Martin Luther Church does.

The pupils of that class are keeping diaries of their adventures with the early church workers. Ask your pupils if they wish to do likewise. Maybe they would rather make picture-story books. Ask if they prefer to do it individually or together with others in the class. Perhaps two or three could work together on a picture book while another committee of juniors makes a picture map. Still another committee may carry out the missionary activities suggested on pages 36 and 37 of *Christian Growth Through Sharing—Junior III.*[3]

Project Reports

The Loyal Workers' diary, and similar class projects recording how Jesus' work went on, may be started early in the quarter (the first session, if possible) and may be continued throughout the three months. At the close of each unit the committees may report on their projects to the rest of the class. Some committees will have completed their projects; others will report on their progress thus far.

The unit should close with the missionary worship service IV, "Witnessing for Jesus in Our Home Community."[3] An excellent worship center picture for the entire unit is that of the risen Christ, number 13 of the Primary III, *Christian Growth Series* picture set.

Other suitable teaching pictures are Primary II, 9, "Disciples on Pentecost," Primary II, 10, "Peter's Sermon on Pentecost," and Primary II, 12, "Medical Doctors at Work."

Unit B. Outsiders Become Christians.

Because it became dangerous for anyone to preach the Christian message in Jerusalem, and because Christ himself had established sufficient evidence that salvation should be for all people, the Gospel was brought to non-Jews where it was more readily accepted. "Outsiders Become Christians" is the fitting title for the three-lesson-unit on Philip's preaching to the Ethiopian, Saul's conversion, and Peter's preaching to the Gentiles. Acts 8 to Acts 11:18 is the Biblical basis for the unit.

Our aim is to guide the juniors to see how the Holy Spirit guided the early Christians to bring the Gospel to people other than the Jews, and to help the juniors realize that the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to help outsiders to know Christ.

The diaries, the picture-story books, the picture maps, or other on-going projects will be continued. Now the places such as

Ethiopia, Samaria, Damascus, and Caesarea can be found on the map and placed on the class picture map. The map of Paul's journeys from the *Standard Bible Maps and Charts* ($2.50 for a set of 8)[1] or other Bible maps or atlases can be consulted. Reports on these committee projects should be given at the last session of the unit.

Pictures of the primary or beginner picture sets which may be used in this unit include "Philip and the Ethiopian", Beginners I, 11; "Peter Going to Cornelius' House", Beginners I, 10; and "Jesus and the Children of the World", Primary III, picture 9 or 15.

The missionary worship service which should come at the close of the unit is "Sharing Christ with All Races and Nationalities", on pages 16 and 17 of *Christian Growth Through Sharing*.[2] It should be worked up carefully so that this candlelighting service can have the beauty and effect it deserves.

Unit C. Paul Carries on Jesus' Work.

Unit C outlines the study of the last part of the Book of Acts. Here we learn how the Church spread, even while the church leaders were disagreeing as to whether or not Gentiles could become Christians without first becoming legal Jews. Paul, led by the Holy Spirit, carried the Good News into Europe and throughout much of the Roman Empire. He also wrote letters to help strengthen the young congregations he had helped to establish. These letters are introduced briefly in this unit.

The unit's aim is to lead the juniors to discover how the Holy Spirit led and enabled Paul to carry on Jesus' work in foreign lands, and to help the juniors realize that the Holy Spirit enables us to carry on Jesus' work throughout the world today.

Either-Or

Paul is the hero of this six-lesson unit. Teachers can do much either to generate enthusiasm for studying the adventures of Paul, or to kill enthusiasm with too many unimportant details. Map work on Paul's journeys, for example, can be exceedingly interesting to the alert juniors, or it can become very tedious and dull—too tedious to serve its purpose. Teachers must rely on the Holy Spirit to give them understanding of the juniors and alertness to their needs and interests so that they can make and keep this quarter's work interesting and vital. The teacher's attitude is highly contagious.

Cathedral films have excellent visual aids on the life of Paul. Some of these may be used with the juniors in class or at family

night meetings during this quarter. We especially recommend these three filmstrips with recordings for use in the Junior Department:[3]

Filmstrip No. 6 "First Missionary Journey" (lesson 8)

Filmstrip No. 5 "Ambassador for Christ" (lesson 9)

Filmstrip No. 10 "Third Missionary Journey" (lesson 11).

For the worship center, we suggest picture 14 of the Primary III *Christian Growth Series* set. It shows Jesus giving the commission to go to all nations.

By the close of this unit, all ongoing activities for the quarter should be finished, and the pupils should have a chance to show the others what they have done. It is wonderful if this can be done at some extra meeting, such as at a family night gathering. The missionary worship service VI,[2] "Carrying on Jesus' Work All Over the World", is intended for use during Sunday school—preferably at the close of the unit—but it could also be a part of the family night program. One of the "Life of Paul" films or filmstrips could be shown during this program.

May the Holy Spirit, who gave power to Peter and Philip and Paul, give us the power we need to let Jesus' work continue to go on—through us.

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[1] Books are available for purchase at Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Illinois.

[2] *Christian Growth Through Sharing —Junior III* is the missionary education packet produced in co-operation with the Board of Parish Education by the Women's Missionary Society, 3939 Pine Grove Avenue, Chicago 13, Illinois. The WMS sells each packet at $1 and additional program booklets for individual teachers at 30c each.

[3] Audio-Visuals are available for purchase or rental from Audio-Visual Service, 2445 Park Ave., Mpls. 4, Minn.

"I Say . . ."

Eight-year-old Charles had been reminding the family for several weeks that he wanted a watch for Christmas. He repeated it so many times that his father finally asked him not to mention it again.

"I'll guarantee you, that if you say one more word about it, there will certainly be no watch for Christmas."

The next morning at the family devotions, each member was asked to read a favorite verse of scripture. When it came to Charles he said solemnly, "Mark 13:37, What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch."

Helps for Teachers of Intermediates

Christian Growth Series, Intermediate III, Second Quarter

By HILVIE MAE OLSON

THE intermediates are just completing the quarter, *This Testament of Mine.* In it they are being introduced to the entire New Testament. Now they will have a more thorough study of the Gospels, and *God's Way for Man* as revealed in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

God's Way for Intermediates

To quote the *Christian Growth Series* Prospectus, "The quarter deals almost exclusively with the life of Christ. Jesus is presented not only in clear historical sequence, but also in unmistakable terms as God's way of salvation for intermediate boys and girls. The redemptive significance paves the way for a series of important events leading up to the crucifixion. The quarter ends appropriately with the Easter triumph."

The aim for the quarter, therefore, is to help the intermediate grow in his understanding, acceptance, and appreciation of God's way for his salvation in Christ.

In preparation for teaching this quarter, teachers of intermediates should "right away" begin rereading and restudying the Gospels. Alleman's *The New Testament—A Study* and Hiltner's *The Story of the New Testament*[1] are splendid little books to help the teacher in this background study.

The Teacher's Friend

By now the teachers of intermediates have become acquainted with the revised *Christian Growth Series,* and have learned to rely on the Teacher's Guide as a genuine friend and helper. Especially helpful are the unit aims and previews at the beginning of each unit, and the simplified session plans for each week's work.

The committee on revisions has promised that these two splendid features will be incorporated in every revised teacher's guide, so

teachers can rely on these easy-to-understand specific helps.

Books and audio-visual resources will not be listed in the texts, however. Therefore in these "Helps" articles in the *Church School Teacher* current available resources will be listed preceding each quarter.

For this quarter, *God's Way for Man,* we recommend the following books[1] for both teacher and pupils:

Bowie, *The Bible Story for Boys and Girls—New Testament*

Irvin (author of our quarter's text), *Life of Jesus*

Jones, *His Name Was Jesus*

Nordgren, *The Heart of the Bible*

Stackel, *The Day of Jesus.*

The set of two filmstrips in color, *Life of Christ (Barosin),*[2] sells for $10. If it is purchased it could be used in class at different times throughout the quarter. For example, the part of the filmstrip picturing the early ministry of Jesus may be shown at the close of Unit A. Parts about opposition to Jesus may be shown sometime during Unit B. And the parts about Jesus' final days on earth may be shown during Unit C. Then, at the close of the quarter, the entire two-part filmstrip may be reshown as a review of the study.

If there is to be a family night at church toward the end of the quarter, or if your church groups want to use an Easter film, there is no better selection of a film than *I Beheld His Glory.* What an impression this could make on the *7th, 8th,* and *9th* graders—just as they are completing their study of God's way for man as revealed in Jesus Christ! The 55-minute film rents regularly for $15 (black and white) or $22.50 (color). However, around Easter time, the price is higher: $25, black and white, and $35 in color. This relatively new film will be going through its third Easter season.

Missionary Correlation

All teachers of intermediates should possess the program booklet prepared in co-operation with the Board of Parish Education by the Women's Missionary Society, *Christian Growth Through Sharing—Intermediate III.*[3] Written by Mrs. Curtis Smith, the booklet includes suggested worship services which make an up-to-date missionary application from the themes of each unit's study. Also there is a section for missionary study for each of the three units of this quarter. "Interesting Missionary Facts", a third section in the booklet, gives information that can bring up-to-date Augustana missions reports into the class study.

By now most of the intermediates and their teachers have become acquainted with the weekly church school story paper, Teen Talk,[4]

which is edited especially for those who are studying the Intermediate *Christian Growth Series.* The paper is interesting and challenging for every early teen-ager, but the special correlations prepared to enrich our Sunday school study make it "a must" for our junior high pupils. Devotional helps for each day are also correlated with the previous Sunday's session aims and, if used, can give tremendous help to the early adolescent during a stormy period of life.

By the way, wouldn't members of your class enjoy seeing a news article or a picture of their activities in "Teen Talk"? The editor invites you to send in such articles and snapshots of yourself and your pupils.

A Preview

Because the new revised Teacher's Guide gives such clear and simple previews and statements of aims of the quarter and units, we will not attempt to repeat them in this article. But here is a simple preview of what is coming in case you don't have your new books yet.

Unit A (sessions 1-4), "Foundations", is intended to help deepen the intermediate's understanding, appreciation, and experiences pertinent to the early ministry of Jesus, including his preparation for it. The missionary correlation gives splendid application to the intermediate's need for preparation for his own life work, and for each individual's need to announce Jesus today—as John announced Jesus. The title of the missionary worship for the unit is "Who Announces Jesus Today? A Call to Christian Service".

About Opposition

Unit B (sessions 5-9), "Opposition", considers the opposition Jesus encountered, and the influence this had on leading him toward the cross. The missionary correlation aims to "teach Intermediates that even as Jesus met extensive opposition as He carried out His divine purpose on earth, Christians today must often face and overcome opposition to their Christian calling and the practice of their Christian principles."[5] The theme for the missionary worship is "God's Way Finds Opposition Today".

Unit C (sessions 10-13), "Redemption", emphasizes the redemption of man which Jesus achieved through His crucifixion and resurrection. For our application to missions today, we further aim "to create in Intermediates a desire to share the knowledge of God's salvation with all men and motivate them to a serious consideration of how they can individually help spread the gospel."[5] The theme for missionary worship Sunday is "Christ the Hope of the World". This is a

pageant which, if carefully worked out, could very well also be used at a Junior Luther League meeting or at a family night service.

Again we emphasize, please read the new teacher's guide very carefully for guidance in defining aims, in developing the units and unit activities, and in preparing for each session with your pupils. As we prepare and teach, may we all more fully realize that "God's Way for Man" is God's way of salvation for each one of us. God wants us to receive that gift and live full lives dedicated to his service.

[1] Available for purchase from Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Illinois.

[2] Available from Audio-Visual Service, 2445 Park Avenue, Minneapolis 4, Minnesota.

[3] *Christian Growth Through Sharing —Intermediate III,* may be purchased from Women's Missionary Society, 3939 Pine Grove Avenue, Chicago 13, Illinois. The complete packet (recommended for the departmental leader and missionary society leader) sells for $1. Single copies of the program book for each teacher and for class use sell for 30c each.

[4] Subscribe to *Teen Talk* from Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Illinois. Single subscriptions, $1.15; five or more, 90 cents each.

[5] Quoted from *Christian Growth Through Sharing*—Intermediate III.

NEW BOOK

Teaching Intermediates—Elsie Fagerlin. ULPH. 32 pp. 50c.

This is the sixth in a series of pamphlets prepared for various teachers in a congregation.

The psychology of working with intermediates has been cleverly handled by answering such questions as: "What are Intermediates Made Of?" "Are You Growing Richer as a Leader" and "Are You in Step with the Best Methods?" Also included are chapters on equipment, church-home relationship and co-operative planning.

The page of additional helps will be valuable when a more detailed study is possible. Available from Augustana Book Concern.

"Helps for Teachers of Seniors"

By KENNETH PRIEBE, *Pastor*
American Lutheran Church

"CHRIST in Old Testament Poetry and Prophecy" is a continued study of the rich treasure of the O.T. for teenagers. The ground is less familiar. But this is a section of God's Word which should be familiar to our youth. Much will depend upon you! Make the most of every opportunity!

Lesson 1

The problem of pain is something most young people think seriously about. They have questions which need to be answered. Be ready to answer the question: "Why does God permit suffering?" Be clear in your own thinking about the problem and that what you believe is reflective of a personal faith. Ask your pastor if the class could do something for someone in the parish who is sick or shut-in. A well planned visit with someone who has learned to live "gracefully" with a handicap can teach volumes. Present both sides of this question however, so that they understand that some men suffer in life but never see the hand of God in their suffering.

Lesson 2

Avoid spending too much time on familiar psalms like the 23rd, the 46th, the 103rd. Do help your class see the rich storehouse of spiritual treasures in the other psalms. Perhaps the week before, ask them to pick a psalm which is unfamiliar and study it. Have them give reasons for picking it and tell what it means in class. Review some of the psalms in the hymn book with the class. Point out those which will help them in preparation for Holy Communion and may serve for meditation during the distribution of the Lord's Supper. (Psalms 34, 42 and 51.)

Lesson 3

Help your class to see the difference between wisdom and knowledge. Show them the danger of making quick decisions about

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their schoolmates and teachers as expressed in such phrases as "He's a brain," or "She's a square." Follow the study book suggestion to play "Scrambled Proverbs." Let the class prepare the game for each other.

Lesson 4

Was the "preacher" of Ecclesiastes a "griper"? Compare him to the prophets of gloom today. Point out how youth by frequently renewing their confirmation vows can offset their own "blue" days. Help your class to think through how they as youth can help other youth who are lost in despair, because of uncertain times, to know the Christ.

Lesson 5

Let the Christ shine through your entire presentation! Don't get the class hung up over consideration of modern day "prophets," but do point out the folly of much present day prophecy, especially that of the sects such as Jehovah's Witnesses. This is one of the most important lessons of the quarter.

Lesson 6

Most of your class will know very little about Jeremiah. You must be able to make him live. The book, JEREMIAH, by Laetsch will provide good background on the prophet. Your pastor may have a copy. Be thorough in your explanation of the covenant in both Old Testament and New Testament.

Lesson 7

"Glory" is the keynote of this book and of this lesson. Help your class to see this plainly! Discuss fully the place of emotions in our faith but with emphasis on the fact that emotional outbursts are not always indications of real faith. Be prepared to discuss Billy Graham and "Youth for Christ" in relation to this matter. Stress the communion of saints.

Lesson 8

Parts of Daniel seem unreal and you may be sure that to teenagers they will seem unbelievable! Help them to understand the apocalyptic style of the book. Many of our youth today know little about trouble, want, or worry. Help them to see that the Lord will stand by them. Let the members of the class write individual prayers to be used in days of distress.

Lesson 9

This will be a difficult book for youth to understand. The analogy of marriage as the relationship between God and man in the Study Book is good. Your class will show keen interest in this. Use this interest. The feeling of guilt

often plagues youth. This lesson offers opportunity to reassure them that God forgives for the sake of Christ. Help your class see the importance of the right kind of friends. Use illustrations from local events to show how friendships with the wrong gang lead to trouble.

Lesson 10

Youth does not like to be hedged in with rules and regulations. You will want to make clear for them the greater implications of doing the will of God. Despite the fact that youth dislike rules they often show by questions that they want good guidance on moral questions. Show them the importance of putting full faith in the Saviour and thus finding the answer to many questions in life. Youth need the warning that God expects obedience but they also need the assurance that he forgives.

Lesson 11

To get across the full scope of five O.T. books in one session is impossible. Concentrate instead on helping your class to see anger as a sin. Many of our youth are being trained to "hate": to hate other countries, to hate people with more material goods than they have, to hate anyone who threatens to take away any liberty. Show the relationship that exists between prejudice and hatred and how the one breeds the other. You can touch on the race problem here if it is real in your community. Let the class give examples of love for their enemies . . . even rival football or baseball teams. Help them to see that we dare hate only one thing . . . sin!

Lesson 12

This lesson challenges youth to serve their Saviour. Contact the president of the Luther League for Youth Vocational Guidance material. Use it if possible. Be alert to the mission opportunities of our day and let the challenge ring clear to the youth in your class to give themselves to mission service. Suggest that every congregation should send into the ministry at least one young man for every pastor it has had. Many young people are becoming "Jonah" escaping God's call because some adults belittle the call to kingdom service.

Lesson 13

Review of the material covered this quarter. Help your class to see that while the Temple was important for O.T. Jews, the Church of Jesus Christ is more important to us. Don't get hung up on details of the O.T. Temple. Move out and bring the quarter to a close with a call to loyalty to the Christ. Coming as it does at the time of Lent you can use this

lesson to g o o d advantage. How about having your class attend the Lenten services in a group?

Additional Suggestions

1. Books to help you: *The Old Testament and the Fine Arts* by C y n t h i a Pearl Maus; *Minor Prophets* by Theo. Laetsch.

2. Dramatize in TV fashion one of the O.T. prophets for a family night program.

3. Character sketches, complete with costumes and a brief knowledge on O. T. prophets, is a good class project. It could be presented to the entire S.S. assembly as a contest, to guess the identity of the prophet. Give an additional clue each week until some one names the prophet. Clear this with your pastor and/or the S.S. superintendent first.

4. Let the class work on a local project to bring the Gospel into a slum area. Contact your community welfare agencies for suggested areas.

5. Study — Pray — Teach — Use your imagination! Know your youth! Show them the Saviour . . . and God will bless your efforts!